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NEWS RELEASE



***** MEDIA STATEMENT *****

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ANA STATEMENT ON DC NURSES ASSOCIATION

SILVER SPRING, MD – The American Nurses Association (ANA) is disappointed to learn from the leadership of the DC Nurses Association (DCNA) of their decision to disaffiliate from ANA as of Nov. 18, 2008.

We do not have the details on the process they used, but ANA bylaws require a 2/3 vote of the entire membership before such a disaffiliation is effective. The 2/3 membership vote is designed to protect members' rights to participate in making the fundamental decision of whether to end a state association's affiliation with the ANA.

ANA leadership has reached out to DCNA with the intent of continuing our longstanding relationship with DCNA because the unity of the profession is of paramount importance. The initial dialogue between ANA and DCNA leadership has started, and it is ANA's plan to continue to reach out regarding this disaffiliation decision. ANA is committed to increasing unity among nurses in order to face the many challenges that lie ahead for the nursing profession.

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The ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 2.9 million registered nurses through its 54 constituent member nurses associations, its 23 organizational affiliates serving 330,000 members of national nursing specialty organizations, and its workforce advocacy affiliate, the Center for American Nurses. The ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public.